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THURSDAY
OCTOBER 8, 1953

Stan Cleveland came to see me this morning and we talked over my conversations of yesterday. I had intended to attend the Congress of Europe sessions later in the day but, as the initial ones were to be entirely devoted to formalized speeches and the hall was jammed, Stan advised me not to go.

Instead, we visited the marvelous museum at the Mauritshaus. Nothing could be more satisfactory than this small museum with its beautiful setting for a glorious collection of pictures. The Rembrandt room especially is quite staggering.

The examples of 17th and 18th Century architecture in The Hague are numerous and deeply satisfying. Their domestic architecture, particularly of the 18th Century, seems to me in many instances to be near perfection for town houses.

We lunched at what was called a snack bar with a glass of schnapps to begin with and creamy Dutch draft beer afterwards. With it we had rye bread and smoked salmon, oyster stew, and some native dishes prepared in the East Indian manner.

We left the airport about 3:15 and got into Le Bourget at 4:30 on a KLM plane.

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